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California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Nutria Eradication Program Update

Field Update July 12, 2022

Since March 2018, the nutria eradication efforts in California have:

- Completed full and/or rapid assessments on over 1.5 M acres
- Executed entry permits with 4,500 landowners for over 9,300 parcels in 14 counties
- Set up 6,367 camera stations (1,447 currently active)
 - o Conducted 56,727 camera checks
- Confirmed nutria within > 500 sites
- Deployed over 7,101 trap sets for a total of 88,181 trap nights
- Taken or accounted for the take of 2,997 nutria (since Mar 2017)
 - o Merced- 1,946
 - o Stanislaus-891
 - o San Joaquin- 110
 - o Fresno- 37
 - o Mariposa- 12
 - Madera- 1 (San Joaquin River; Fresno County line)

Of 2,997 necropsies, the data has shown:

- 1.12 sex ratio (M:F)
- Of the females captured:
 - 19% of juvenile (2-6 mos.) females have been pregnant
 - 59% of subadult (6-14 mos.) females have been pregnant
 - 67% of adult (>14 months of age) females have been pregnant
- o 3,375 fetal nutria have been removed from the population
- Litter size ranged from 1-13, with an average of 5.8
 - Average litter size for adult females (> 14 mos.) in California is 6.4

Table 1. The total number of cells with nutria taken, total number of nutria taken, and average number of nutria taken per cell, by year from March 2017 to May 11, 2022.

Year	Total (unique) cells with nutria	Total # nutria taken	Average # nutria taken per cell
	taken		
2017	7	20	2.9
2018	57	348	6.1
2019	73	492	6.7
2020	157	1239	7.9
2021	145	703	4.9
2022	60	195	3.3
Grand Total	362	2,997	8.3